

**CINCINNATI PARKS**

***NATURE  
ACTIVITIES***



**FALL 2004**

**We** operate 5 nature centers and the Krohn Conservatory;  
for more information about a specific center, call the naturalists  
at the numbers below. Come visit for a program or just drop by.

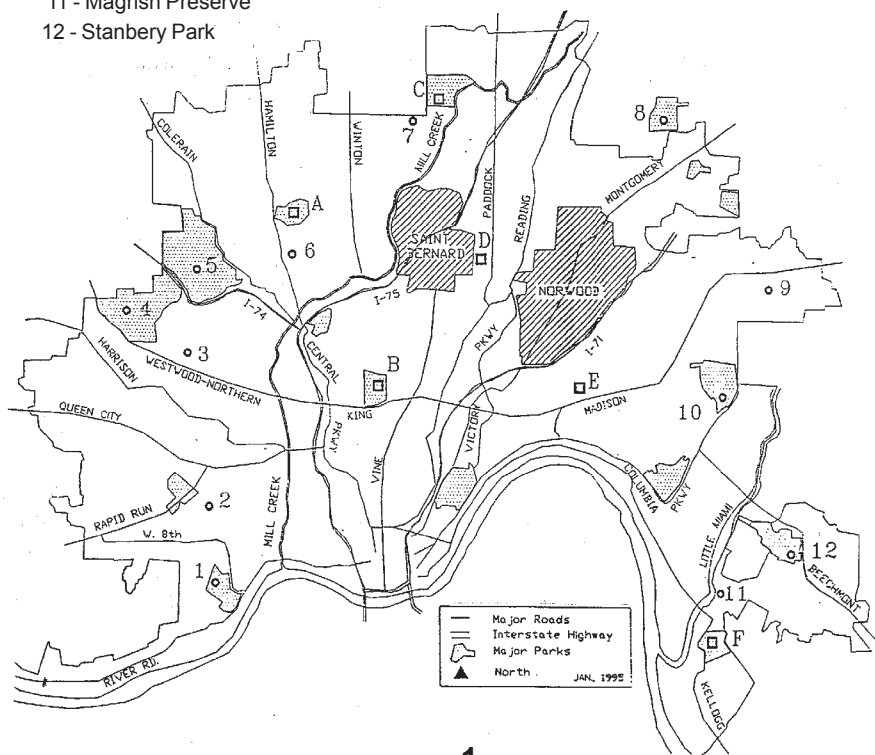
Avon Woods Nature Ctr.	4235 Paddock Road	861-3435
Bettman Natural Resources Ctr.	4 Beech Lane	321-6070
Caldwell Nature Ctr.	430 W. N. Bend Road	761-4313
California Woods Nature Ctr.	5400 Kellogg Avenue	231-8678
Krohn Conservatory	1501 Eden Park Dr.	421-5707
LaBoiteaux Woods Nature Ctr.	5400 Lanjus Lane	542-2909

#### ○ Preserves & Parks with Trails

- 1 - Mt. Echo Park
- 2 - Glenway Woods
- 3 - Brodbeck Preserve
- 4 - McFarlan Woods (Mt. Airy)
- 5 - Mt. Airy Forest
- 6 - Buttercup Valley / Parker's Woods
- 7 - Seymour Preserve
- 8 - French Park
- 9 - Little Duck Creek
- 10 - Ault Park
- 11 - Magrish Preserve
- 12 - Stanbery Park

#### □ Nature Centers

- A - LaBoiteaux Woods
- B - Trailside (Closed for remodeling)
- C - Caldwell
- D - Avon Woods
- E - Bettman
- F - California Woods



## Cincinnati Park Board Nature Activity Guide Fall 2004

**W**elcome to the natural heritage of your Cincinnati Parks. In these pages, you'll find Park Naturalist-led programs for the general public, suitable for all ages. Use this guide to locate those of greatest interest to yourself and your family. Be sure to check out the Cincinnati Parks' website at [www.cincinnati-oh.gov/parks](http://www.cincinnati-oh.gov/parks) See you out in the parks!

The Cincinnati Park Board's Education Services Division has a mission to educate people of all ages about the ecological relationships and the natural and historical resources in the Cincinnati Parks and Preserves and to assist in their protection and management.

Any group of 10 or more people is encouraged to get closer to nature through one of our weekday programs. Groups (garden clubs, schools, pre-schools, senior organizations, and scouts) may schedule a special program by calling **321-6070**. Reservations are made on a first-call basis. Fees and information available; call **321-6070**.

Reasonable accommodations will be made upon request,  
call 352-3380 TTY

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# Public Hikes and Programs

(Unless otherwise noted, public programs are free.)

## September

### Hooked on Fishing

Sat., Sept. 11, 10:00 a.m. - Noon — Burnet Woods

Join us for a fun family fishing day. Bring your own equipment or use a cane pole from the nature center.

A fishing license is NOT required, but reservations are.

Call 861-3435 for more information and reservations.

Check in at the Trailside Nature Center



### Fall Transition Time

Sun., Sept. 12, 2:00 - 3:30 p.m. — Kennedy Park

Enjoy an early fall hike in a beautifully wooded park.

During our hike, we'll talk about how seasonal changes will affect the local environment. Meet at the parking lot off Kennedy Rd. For more information please call 542-2909

### SW Ohio Beekeepers Association Potluck Lunch Meeting

Sat., Sept. 18, 12:00 - 3:00 p.m. — California Woods

Join members of the Southwestern Ohio Beekeepers Association (SWOBA) for a potluck lunch and time to learn about honeybees. A hive demonstration will be conducted; bring your beekeeping gear or watch from the safety of our screened tent. Please bring a covered dish to share.

Call 231-8678 for reservations or more information.



## Sat. & Sun., Sept. 25-26

### Cincinnati's First Great Outdoor Weekend

Greater Cincinnati's nature, outdoor and environmental organizations are cooperating to bring you a tempting smorgasbord of activities for all

ages. Come sample the best of what the region has to offer in nature education and recreation. Cincinnati Park Naturalists and volunteers will present free programs at Avon Woods, Caldwell Nature Center, California Woods, LaBoiteaux Woods,

Burnet Woods, Ault Park, McEvoy Park, Kennedy Heights Park, and Mt. Airy Forest. Call 321-6070 for more information, and watch for Great Outdoor Weekend brochures in your neighborhood. You can also find the schedule and maps on the internet at: [www.CincyGreatOutdoorWeekend.org](http://www.CincyGreatOutdoorWeekend.org).



## October

### Family's First Camp Out

Fri. & Sat., Oct. 1 & 2, 6:00 p.m. - 9:00 a.m.

California Woods

(Set-up begins at 5:00 p.m.; we strongly encourage coming early).

Want to try camping, but don't have the equipment or "know-how"? Then here's your chance to test it out!

Join experienced campers who will share camping success tips, campfire cooking and what to look for in equipment. Tents will be provided; you supply your own sleeping bag, pad, pillow, and food items for dinner & breakfast.

Children must be accompanied by parent/guardian.

Fee: \$20.00 / tent (up to 4 persons per tent);

Reservations required; limited space. Call 231-8678 for more information.



### "America's Serengeti" - the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge

Thurs., Oct. 7, 7:00 - 8:30 p.m. — Avon Woods

Home to wolves, bald eagles, grizzly bears and the 129,000 caribou of the Porcupine River herd; ANWR has often been called "America's Serengeti". See its grandeur and wildlife through a slide presentation. Be sure not to miss this unique opportunity to explore Alaska's wilderness with our guide from the Alaska Coalition. For more information and reservations please call 861-3435.

### Campfire Songs and Stories

Fri., Oct. 8 7:30 - 8:30 p.m. — Caldwell Nature Center

Warm your hearts and hands with us at our autumn campfire celebration. Naturalists will share tales, wails and calls of the wild through story and song on this weekend eve of the waning year. We'll supply the marshmallows to roast. Call 761-4313 for more information. Meet at the Nature Center building.



### Autumn Art and Hike

Sat., Oct. 9, 10:00 - 11:30 a.m. — Avon Woods

Let the beauty of the fall colors and harvest be an inspiration for decorating your home this season. Join us for an autumn hike to collect natural items and make a simple table decoration. We will also have on display a few craft ideas you can make at home. Call 861-3435 for more information and reservations.

Fee: \$2.00 per person.





## Trees and Twilight

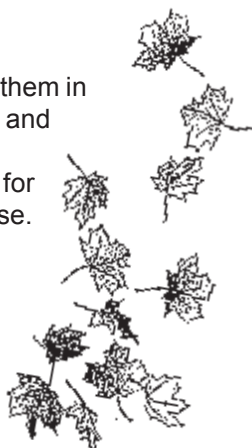
*Fri., Oct. 15, 6:30 – 8:00 p.m. – Ault Park*

Take an early evening walk among Ault's big trees, seeing them in a new way. While the late sun brings out the details of bark and twigs, the naturalist will throw light on little-known facts of trees' natural history and usefulness. Call 321-6070 ext. 16 for more information. Meet at the bottom of the pavilion staircase.

## Fall Colors Walk

*Sun., Oct. 17, 3:00 – 4:30 p.m. – LaBoiteaux Woods*

Give your senses a holiday and immerse yourself in autumn's color delights. Enjoy the lavenders of fall asters, the golden hues of maples and buckeyes, the vibrant reds of Virginia Creepers and Jack-in-the-Pulpit berries, and the sunny shades of blue-stemmed and zig-zag goldenrods. Call 542-2909 for more information. Meet in front of the Nature Center building.



## Have Seeds, Will Travel

*Sun., Oct. 24, 3:00 – 4:30 p.m. – Ponderosa Ridge, Mt. Airy Forest*

Plants have evolved numerous methods for expanding their turf and moving into new locations. Who needs planes, trains or automobiles when seeds can do the job? We'll look for examples of different strategies seeds use to go the distance. How many will you find? Call 761-4313 for more information.

Meet at the Ponderosa Ridge shelter.

## Magic Forest Walks

*Fri. & Sat., Oct. 29 & 30, starting 7:00 p.m. – Caldwell Nature Center*

**Trolls will be a-creeking, while crawlies are a-creeping and critters are a-speaking ... Learn of Spiders, Bats and Trees, History and the Seasons on this eve. You'll be surprised what you will glean, on just such a chilly Halloween.**

The woods come alive with a confused young witch, the spirits of the seasons, pioneers, Mother Nature, talking trees and animals, and more.

Bring your young (ages 3 – 9) adventurers to walk the pumpkin-lit trail with you and interact with the non-scary characters they meet along the way. Perhaps your children can help the witch solve the mystery of photosynthesis, or give the Bat a group hug. Reservations required. Call 321-6070 for reservations, more information. Fee: \$4.00 per person (babies 2 yrs. or under free.)



## November

### Fungus Among Us

*Sat., Nov. 6, 10:00 - 11:30 a.m. – Ault Park*

Join our "fun guy" naturalist as we search for the fungus among us. Beautiful, colorful or just plain weird, we'll see large and small, delicious and deadly types of fungi. We will also learn the important role fungi play in nature. Meet at the fountain in front of the Pavilion. Call 231-8678 for more information.



### Restoration Practices in the Mill Creek Watershed

*Sat., Nov. 6, 1:00 - 3:00 p.m. – Caldwell Nature Center*

Are all alien species considered invasive? How should plants be removed from a hillside? Should I put something back? Learn the story of the Mill Creek up to its current restoration efforts on an armchair voyage with Bruce Koehler, also known as Commodore Koehler of the Mill Creek Yacht Club. Then go out into the field with some of the experts who have been breaking ground right here at Caldwell Nature Preserve. We'll help you to find the answers or the organization for your back yard or community project. Registration required in advance of program. Call 761-4313 for information or reservations.



### Traditions at the Hearth

*Sat., Nov. 13, 7:00 - 8:30 p.m. – LaBoiteaux Woods*

Enjoy an evening with family and friends around our hearth. Relax as you learn about days gone by and share refreshments and old-fashioned fun. \$2.00 per person. Reservations required. Please call 542-2909 for reservations and more information.

### Following the Fowl

*Sat., November 20, 5:00 – 6:30 p.m. – McFarlan Woods*

Come and join a naturalist for a fowl hunt. Participants will try to locate and call in the elusive wild turkey. Learn some fascinating facts about this bird as we hunt it with our eyes and our cameras. Call 861-3435 for more information. Check in at Maple Ridge Lodge.



## Looking Ahead to the Holidays

### Annual Holiday Craft Workshop

Thurs., Dec. 3, 6:30 - 8:30 p.m. — LaBoiteaux Woods

Bring the family for a pleasant evening at a beautiful nature center. Exercise your creative side and then relax by the roaring fire. For fees, more information, call 542-2909.



### Winter in the Woodlands

Sat., Dec. 11, 5:30 - 8:30 p.m.

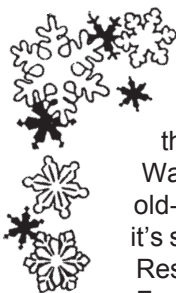
California Woods

Families and adults can enjoy a self-guided leisurely walk through the illuminated winter woodlands of California Woods.

Warm yourselves around a crackling fire, and if you wish make an old-fashioned craft. Meet at the Nature Center, but bundle up; it's sure to be a true "winter" experience!

Reservations required by Dec. 9. Call 231-8678 for more information.

Fee: \$5.00 per person, payable at the program.



### Winter Break Nature Camp — Give a Cheer for Winter!

Wed., Dec. 22, 9:30 a.m. - 2:30 p.m. — California Woods

For children in Grades K-2

The winter solstice is upon us and we're going to celebrate the quiet calm of winter! Join in on the fun as we hike, play games, make crafts and simply relax with a story by the fire. Don't forget to bundle up, pack a lunch and drink, and be ready for an exciting time. Call 231-8678 for more information.

Fee: \$10 in city; \$13 out of city

To register, complete and mail in the form on page 14 by Dec. 15



## and to Maple Syrup Season 2005

Mark your calendar now so you don't get "frozen out" of our annual pancake breakfasts and maple syrup celebrations!

### Maple in Mt. Airy

Sat., March 5; breakfast seatings by reservation — Oak Ridge Lodge

After an all-the-pancakes-you-can-eat breakfast, take a haywagon ride to the Arboretum, where you'll see how people have turned sap into syrup over the centuries. Fee: \$7.00 per person. Reservations required; call 321-6070.

### Pancakes in the Woods

Sun. March 13 — California Woods

Enjoy a pancake breakfast in the undercroft, activities in the program room, and demonstrations outside. Call 231-8678 for more information.

## Krohn Conservatory

Eden Park's Krohn Conservatory is a nationally recognized showcase of more than 3,500 plant species from all over the world. The Palm, Tropical, Desert, and Orchid houses exhibit permanent displays of exotic plants in natural settings, complete with a 20' rainforest waterfall. The Display House features the stunning shows listed below. **Call 421-4086** for more information.

Free admission; donations accepted. **Open daily from 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.**

**Krohn will be closed through October 22, while the glass is replaced in the lobby and Palm House.**

## Floral Shows and Special Events

### Orchid Display and Competition

October 23-26, 10:00 a.m. — 5:00 p.m. daily

This incredible display of orchids is a must see. It is sponsored by the Greater Cincinnati Orchid Society. Vendors from the tri-state area will have supplies and plants available for purchase. *On Saturday October 23, the display areas will be closed until 12 noon for judging.*

Call 352-4080 for more information.

### Bonsai Display

October 30-31, 10:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m., daily

Members of the Bonsai Society of

Greater Cincinnati will bring many additional bonsai to Krohn; many with fall color, for this wonderful weekend event.

Call 352-4080 for more information.



### A Holiday Tradition

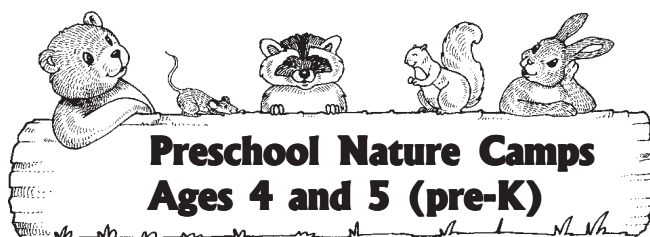
Nov. 20, 2004 - Jan. 2, 2005

Hundreds of poinsettias, toy trains, and a tree decorated with all natural ornaments have been an important part of Cincinnati holiday traditions for generations -- but each year the display offers a fresh, new look for a time-honored show. Don't miss this year's version.

Call 352-4080 for special holiday hours.



## Preschool programs



Children 4 or 5 should sign up early for these popular Preschool camps. A different nature topic is presented each week through games, crafts, stories, music, puppet shows, mini-hikes and nature activities.

**To register:** Complete and mail in the form on page 14.

### **LaBoiteaux Woods**

**Fridays – 12:30 - 2:30 p.m.**

Oct. 1, 8, 15, 22; Nov. 5, 12

Cost: \$30.00 city residents

\$35.00 non-residents

(Per child, per 6-week session)

### **Avon Woods**

**Wednesdays – 1:00 - 3:00 p.m.**

Sept. 29; Oct. 6, 13, 20, 27; Nov. 3

Cost: \$30.00 city residents \$35.00 non-residents

(Per child per 6-week session)

### **California Woods**

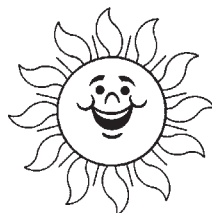
**Mondays – 12:30 - 2:30 p.m.**

Oct. 4, 11, 18, 25; Nov. 1, 8

Cost: \$30.00 city residents

\$35.00 non-residents

(Per child per 6-week session)



## **Nature Babies: Wild Encounters From a Stroller**

Introduce your baby or toddler to nature and socialize with other moms. With guidance from a professional mom-teacher-naturalist, you'll be baby's nature expert as you safely introduce him / her to the world of textures, shapes and colors outdoors. Meet at the bottom of the stairs to the Pavilion in **Ault Park**. Fee: \$3.00 per child per program. Call **231-8678** for reservations (required).

Mon., Sept. 27, 10:00 - 11:00 a.m.

Mon., Oct. 4, 10:00 - 11:00 a.m.

*Note: Program content repeats  
and is the same for each date.*

## Programs for Children age 5 - 15

### **Fall Nature Explorers – LaBoiteaux Woods**

**For children 6 - 8 years old**

**Mondays, 4:00 - 5:30 p.m. – Sept. 20, 27; Oct. 4, 11, 18, 25; Nov. 1, 8**



Through hikes, detective games, and live animals, children will explore their surroundings and focus on a new aspect of nature every week. Call 542-2909 for more information.

**To register:** Complete and mail the form on page 14.

Fee: city residents \$35.00 non-residents \$40.00

(Per child per 8-week session)

### **Nature Art Classes – LaBoiteaux Woods**

**Drawing Classes for Ages 9 – 13**

**Thursdays, 3:45 - 5:15 p.m.**

Sept. 23, 30; Oct. 7, 14, 21, 28; Nov. 4 (seven sessions)

Using a variety of media, students will explore the natural world through these fine drawing classes.

Fee: city residents \$35.00

non-residents \$40.00



**To register:** Complete and mail the form on page 14.

## **Looking for a Service Project?**

*If you are an older student in need of a community service project, we may have what you're looking for. Most nature centers have needs for non-native species removal, litter pick-up, and minor trail work. Call the nature center closest to you to ask about opportunities.*



# A Habitat For Homeschoolers

Cincinnati Park Naturalists provide a local resource for homeschooling families through weekday nature programs that are educational and encourage audience participation. Join other homeschooling families for fun and learning. Adult participation in activities is requested. *All programs require advance registration (call the Nature Center phone number given in the description),* and may have a minimum attendance requirement.

*Fee: \$3.00 per person per program, including siblings and adults.*

## The Ecology of Habitats for children grades 1-8

*Wed. Sept. 22, 10:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.*

*California Woods Nature Preserve*

Students will be introduced to local habitats in the Cincinnati area and how basic ecological principles apply to each of these habitats. An indoor presentation focuses on predator/prey relationships and animal structures. The hike includes an in-depth, hands-on study of the forest, meadow and creek habitats. Call 231-8678 by Sept. 20.



## Wild Homes and Creature Features for grades K-2

*Thurs. Sept. 30, 10:00 - 1:00 p.m. - LaBoiteaux Woods Nature Preserve*

Young students learn what elements are needed for survival in an environment, and what kind of physical qualities it takes for wildlife to stay alive in nature. Interactive nature walk and live animals included. Call 542-2909 by Sept. 24.



## "Tree"-mendous Trees for children grades K-3

*Thurs., Oct. 14, 10:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.*

*California Woods Nature Preserve*

This program is a well-rounded introduction to all aspects of the plant kingdom. The outdoor hike will be geared for the season. The indoor presentation will focus on plant physiology and photosynthesis. Call 231-8678 by Oct. 11.

## Inheriting Ohio for grades 2-4

*Thurs. Oct. 21, 10:00 a.m. - 1:30 p.m. - Avon Woods Nature Preserve*

This fast-paced program allows students to step back in time to role-play families moving into Ohio, make survival decisions, and fail or prosper accordingly. The hike will focus on the contrast between resource usage by the native Americans and by the settlers, and how this brought on great change. Registrations due by October 15. Call 861-3435.

## Our Changing Earth for grades 3-5

*Thurs. Nov. 4, 10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.*

*LaBoiteaux Woods Nature Preserve*

Many forces shape the earth's surface and our local environment. Bring your student for a fun, hands-on experience with landforms, map-making, and outdoor exploration of creeks and hills! Call 542-2909 by October 29.



## Earth Savers for grades 2-4

*Wed. Nov. 10, 10:00 a.m. - noon - Avon Woods Nature Preserve*

Students will explore ways to Reduce, Reuse, Recycle and Restore our natural resources and environment through hands-on activities. Fun and active techniques engage students in the recycling of solid waste, nature's recycling methods and composting. Bring a bag lunch and dress for the weather. Registrations due by November 5; call 861-3435.



## Native American Life for grades K-2

*Mon., Nov. 8, 10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.*

*Caldwell Nature Preserve*

This interactive program explores the food, clothing and shelter of an Ohio Native American child in the late 1700's. Children will practice some daily life skills, games, pictographs and dances. A hike will point out Native Americans' historic uses of the forest. Bring a lunch and dress for the weather. Call 761-4313 by November 1.

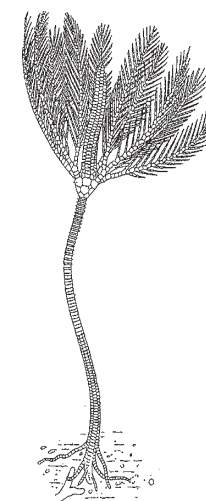
## Lands Across Time

### The Geology of Cincinnati for grades 3-6

*Thurs. Nov. 18, 10:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.*

*California Woods Nature Preserve*

Students take an in-depth look at all aspects of Cincinnati geology. This program explores soil components, erosion, and fossilization. An exploratory hike will focus on erosion and give the children an opportunity to take some fossils from our Lick Run Creek. Sturdy footwear is required for creeking. Call 231-8678 by Nov. 15.



## Attention Scout and Youth Leaders

Don't be shut out: sign up now for popular winter and spring programs. Call 321-6070 for information on Maple in Mt. Airy and Maple Syruping programs at the centers, Girl Scout Overnights, and the Acting Wild Theater Camps. For after-school programs related to your scout badges and achievements, or for advancement service projects, call the nature center most convenient to you (see pg. 1).

### Plants Try-It for Brownies

Thursday Sept. 30, 4:00 - 6:00 p.m. - Caldwell Nature Center  
Learn about types of trees, how seeds grow, and recycling in nature. Set up a group of growing experiments to watch at home. Learn about the importance of plants on a walk in Caldwell Preserve. Girls will fulfill the requirements of the Plants Try-It. Non-refundable prepayment is required with registration. \$3.00 per scout. Troop leaders do not pay. Use registration form on page 14. Registration is limited. For more information, please call 761-4313.

### Campfire Fun for Brownies and 4th Grade Juniors

Saturday, October 9, 7:30 - 8:30 p.m. - Caldwell Nature Center  
Enjoy some animal tales and good old-fashioned singing around a crackling campfire. Audience participation will make the songs and stories come to life. The program includes a short break to toast marshmallows (provided). In case of rain, we'll gather 'round our indoor fireplace. Cost is \$3.00 per person. Program is pre-paid and non-refundable. Use registration form on page 14. Call 761-4313 for reservations.

### Outdoor Adventurer Try-It!

Tuesday, October 19, 4:00 - 5:30 p.m. - California Woods  
Attention Brownie Troops, need to earn your Outdoor Adventurer Try-It? Come to California Woods to work with naturalists who will help you with the different activities to accomplish your Try-It. Troops **must** register by October 15th. Call 231-8678 for more information or to register. The fee is \$3.00 per scout. Troop leaders do not pay.



### Geologist Badge for Webelos

Tuesday, November 16, 4:00 - 5:30 p.m. California Woods  
In the Boy Scouts and need to earn your geologist badge? Bring your den to California Woods as we work on the different activities to earn your badge. We will go to our creek and look for the various types of rock and much more. Dens **must** register

by November 12th. Call 231-8678 for more information or to register. The fee is \$3.00 per scout. Scout leaders do not pay.

## Program Registration Form

*One child and one program per application please. Feel free to make copies as needed. Please adapt form as needed for scout program registration.*

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Age/Grade \_\_\_\_\_ Date of Birth \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Emergency Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City

State

Zip

E-mail address (optional): \_\_\_\_\_

Center \_\_\_\_\_

Program Title \_\_\_\_\_

Session / Time Desired (if more than one offered) \_\_\_\_\_

Amount Enclosed \$ \_\_\_\_\_

(Make checks payable to: *Treasurer, City of Cincinnati*)

I hereby release and save harmless the Cincinnati Board of Park Commissioners and its employees from any and all liability for any injuries, loss, or other claims arising out of this program. I give permission for my child to be photographed and for his/her picture to be used without identification or compensation in Park publications. In the event I cannot be reached in an emergency, I hereby give permission to the medical personnel selected by the program director to administer treatment, including hospitalization, for my child as named above.

Signature of parent/guardian \_\_\_\_\_

(Please print parent/guardian name) \_\_\_\_\_

*If your child has medical problems or allergies, including food allergies, please attach a note informing the program staff of the potential problem.*

**To register, mail the form above  
with payment to:**

**Bettman Natural Resources Center  
Cincinnati Park Board  
4 Beech Lane  
Cincinnati, OH 45208**





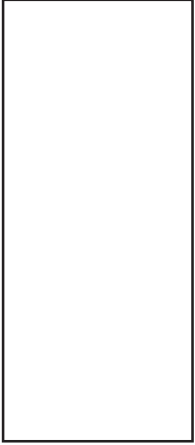


CINCINNATI PARK BOARD  
BETTMAN NATURAL RESOURCE CENTER  
4 BEECH LANE  
CINCINNATI OH 45208

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